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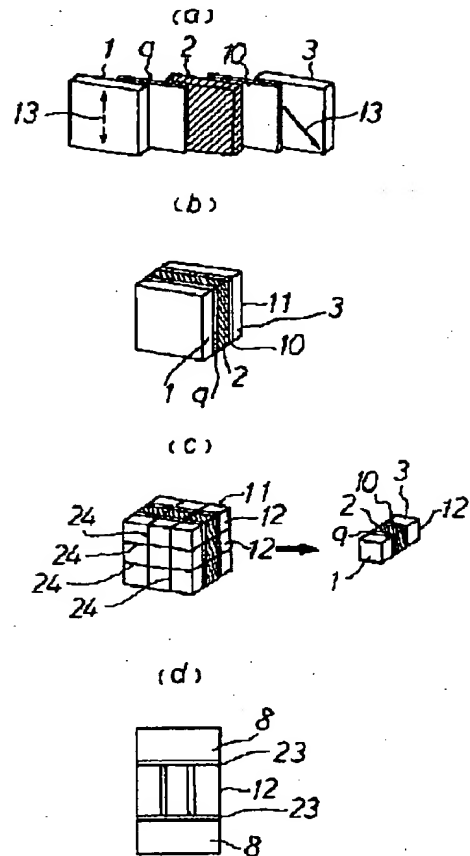
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TITLE : OPTICAL ISOLATOR AND ITS PRODUCTION



ABSTRACT : **PURPOSE:** To provide an inexpensive metal junction optical isolator having high characteristics and consistent quality by adopting a structure to allow a simultaneous treatment and to suppress the outflow of solder to optical paths at the time of fixing by soldering, unlike the conventional treatment method by each optical chip, and realizing the simplification of production stages and a process for producing such isolator.

CONSTITUTION: The optical isolator featuring good mass productivity is provided by using the structure to join blanks for optical elements by interposing stress buffer plates 9, 10 between these blanks as means for relieving the stresses and strains generated among the optical elements including a polarizer 1, Faraday rotator 2 and analyzer 3 to be joined. In addition, parts for preventing the solder flow are formed around the apertures of the stress buffer plate 9 and patterned metallic thin film layers are formed on the joint surfaces of the blanks for the respective optical elements of a size to allow the layout of plural pieces and are joined by soldering and thereafter, the blanks are cut, by which the optical isolator is produced.

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